

Kalorama Park PUD Neighbor Meeting Report

We held our neighborhood meeting June 17 at 7pm at our office, 301 S. Union Street. By separate mailing, we notified all neighbors of the time, location and purpose of this meeting. A copy of that letter is attached.

I had a PowerPoint prepared specifically for this meeting, but our projector did not work so we had to adjust and do the presentation with paper copies of aerial photographs, site plans, etc. I felt that there were several people in attendance who arrived with an apprehensive attitude; in fact, when I first mentioned that there could be as many as 40 houses, I got a visual and verbal negative response from three or four individuals. There was some concern about the backs of our houses facing South Street, and I informed them that at the present time, that is not anticipated. Mr. Newby's son Kevin expressed concern for stormwater being dumped off to them. I have sent Kevin a couple of emails, asking that he and his father sit down with me and discuss stormwater and the project in general, because I think that they are impacted by this development more than any other neighbor. To date he hasn't responded to that request.

The meeting lasted for about an hour and a half, and at the conclusion I felt like everyone was generally satisfied that they were getting a quality project and the impact that this development would be minimal to their particular situation. While there was a small amount of aggressive behavior at the beginning of the meeting, there was clearly no aggressive behavior by the end, and in fact some people stayed to talk about the project for some time. There was a genuine interest in the concept by the end of the evening, to the point that a couple of people suggested condominiums in the cluster that fronts the Midland Trace.

I gave every attendee my business card and asked them to send me any comments that they would like to share with the City. I promised to share those comments with your office regardless of the position expressed. As of this writing, no one has sent me an email. From my experience, it seemed like the meeting ended very positively, with no strong objections from any neighbors.